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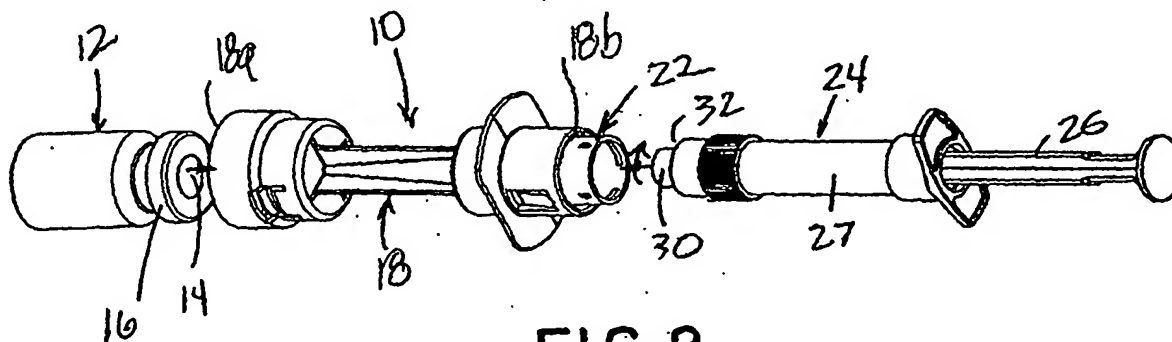
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**(54) Safety device for a syringe assembly**

(57) A syringe safety device (10) forms a fluid coupling between a sealed vial (14) and a syringe (24) and includes a tubular connector (18) having a first axial open end (18a) engaging the end of the vial (12) and a second, opposing open axial end (18b) releasably receiving a syringe (24) to use with the vial (12), the tubular connector (18) enclosing a sliding joint (22) having opposing axial ends (22a, 22b) and a passageway (56) between the ends, a first axial end (22a) configured to en-

gage an enlarged, blunt mounting end (20b) of a syringe needle (20), a second axial end (22b) configured to releasably engage at least a releasable needle receiver (30) on a distal end (32) of the syringe (24) without needle, the syringe (24) without needle being releasably removable from the sliding joint (22) after fluid coupling with the vial (14) through the passageway (56) of the sliding joint (22), without removal of the sliding joint (22) from the connector (18). The needle (20) is captured in the connector (18) with the sliding joint (22).

**FIG. 2**



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 01 12 6279

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>18 July 2003</b>	Examiner <b>Cametz, C</b>
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document</p> <p>T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &amp;: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
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